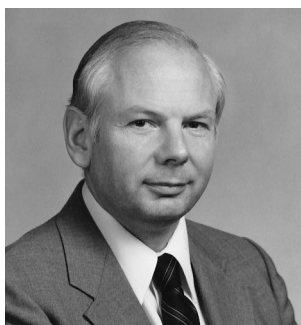


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EDITOR'S PAGE

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JACC Annual Report—1997

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WILLIAM W. PARMLEY, MD, FACC

Editor-in-Chief

*Journal of the American College of Cardiology*

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Each year, I am asked to report to the American College of Cardiology (ACC) Publications Committee regarding the activities of the *Journal of the American College of Cardiology* (JACC). My report together with the publisher's report helps the Committee to assess the progress of the past year and to make recommendations for changes during the coming year. Elements of our report to the Committee are listed below for the interest of the reader.

The Editorial Office received 1,925 new manuscripts, or an average of 161 per month. This represents a 1% increase over the submission rate for 1996. We published 3,411 pages in 1997 as part of our agreement with the publisher. Our annual page allowance increases by 100 pages in 1998 for a total of 3,520 pages. Our experience at JACC is that we have to turn down many good manuscripts because of the limit on number of publication pages. Accordingly, after much discussion at the meeting, there emerged the possibility of increasing the number of pages to 3,900 for the year 1999. This will provide an opportunity in the future to publish more of the excellent manuscripts that we must currently turn down because of the limited number of pages available. Our rejection rate increased from 76% to 78% in 1997. The time from acceptance to publication was reduced from an average of 5 months to an average of 3.5 months. In 1997, 57% of submissions originated from outside the United States. Japan leads the foreign submissions, followed by Germany, Italy, the United Kingdom, France and Canada. The clinical content of the Journal remains strong. We continue to publish about 90% clinical articles and 10% animal research. The subscriptions for 1997 remained relatively constant at over 31,000. JACC continues to lead the market in total number of advertising pages. During 1997, five translation editions of JACC continued publication: three in Spanish, one in Portuguese (Brazil) and one in Italian. Reprint rights in Italian, Spanish and Portuguese have also been contracted. Discussions are continuing con-

cerning a special Japanese language section to be offered to all Japanese subscribers. Of note, the abstracts for the World Congress of Cardiology in Rio De Janeiro will be published in JACC. The JACC Home Page and JACC Forum have become increasingly popular on the Web. These are available when one goes either to the ACC Home Page or to Elsevier's Home Page.

I want to express special thanks to all those who reviewed manuscripts for JACC. Our approximately 100 editorial consultants have done an excellent job in providing timely and important reviews of manuscripts submitted to them. We are also indebted to all of those who are not formally on the Board who freely give of their time to review manuscripts for JACC. I also express thanks to our staff in the San Francisco office and to those at ACC and Elsevier who do such a wonderful job of putting the Journal together each month. I also appreciate the letters, telephone calls and e-mail and FAX communications from readers and authors to me who have helped in bringing new ideas and thoughts to my attention. In addition to our excellent Associate Editors here in San Francisco, Dr. Gottlieb Friesinger has done an excellent job in independently handling all the manuscripts that come from the University of California, San Francisco. This allows us to avoid a conflict of interest and at the same time provide high quality review of our manuscripts. For the record, it should be noted that Dr. Friesinger's acceptance rate (as was true for his predecessor, Dr. Klocke) and our acceptance rate are essentially the same. I personally look forward to another exciting year with JACC as we consider new initiatives. At the moment, we are moving toward making JACC available on the Web site to those who are subscribers. In addition, the sales of the CD-ROMs of past years of JACC have been exceptional and indicate a growing interest in this form of archiving. Over the next few months, there will be other changes in JACC, especially as we approach the 50th anniversary year of the ACC, which will be celebrated from December 1998 through December 1999. As always, I welcome your thoughts and ideas that will help to make JACC the best it can be.

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